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國際特赦組織

TL4509

URGENT ACTION

PUBLIC **AI Index: ASA 21/79/98**

UA 215/98 **Fear for safety** **3 August 1998**

EAST TIMOR **Francisco (no surname)**

Amnesty International is concerned for the safety of Francisco, an East Timorese man from Dili, the capital of East Timor, who is believed to have been tortured, and who is now in incommunicado military detention following his arrest on 14 July 1998.

Francisco was arrested during a military search of a public bus from Suai to Dili, by soldiers from KODIM (District Military Command) Liquica and Koramil (Sub-District Military Command) Maubara 03. He was reportedly then detained at KODIM Liquica. The East Timor Human Rights Centre (ETHRC) has stated that Francisco was subjected to torture at KODIM Liquica, and that witnesses who saw him in military custody at KODIM Liquica claimed that his face was severely disfigured.

According to the ETHRC, on 18 July, Francisco was taken out of KODIM and driven to the town of Maubara. On arrival in Maubara, while still in military custody, Francisco managed to attract the attention of passers-by. As a result of this, it is reported that the military are believed to have returned him to KODIM Liquica.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Arbitrary arrests of individuals suspected of opposing Indonesia's occupation of East Timor continue to be reported. East Timorese taken into both military and police custody face the risk of being tortured and ill-treated, particularly in the early stages of detention when they are interrogated. Safeguards against torture and ill-treatment of detainees, such as the right to independent legal counsel at all stages of an investigation, provided for under Indonesia's Code of Criminal Procedures, are frequently ignored by the military and the police. Detainees are routinely denied access to legal counsel and to their families, thereby increasing the risk of ill-treatment and torture. Around 20 East Timorese are believed to remain in incommunicado military detention.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/ airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or in your own language:

- urging the authorities to clarify the whereabouts of Francisco and the charges under which he is being held and to release him if he is not being held for a recognisable criminal offence;
- urging the authorities to allow him on-going and regular access to human rights lawyers, medical professionals and to his family;
- urging the authorities to ensure that he is not at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

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APPEALS TO:
MILITARY COMMANDER REGION IX/UDAYANA
(covers Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East Timor)
Maj. Gen. Adam Damiri
Pangdam IX/Udayana
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana
Denpasar
Bali
Indonesia

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and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 September 1998.